

# Idaho

## Kids in action

LEARN AND SERVE



VOL 3, ISSUE 4



DECEMBER 2008

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

**FIRST PROGRESS  
REPORT DUE**  
January 15, 2009

**MARTIN LUTHER KING  
JR. DAY**  
January 19, 2009

**RFP RELEASED  
FOR 2009 LEARN &  
SERVE GRANTS**  
February 16, 2009



# Note from the Coordinator

Reflection, I like to say, is the hyphen between service & learning as it connects the two. Reflection is indispensable to the entire service-learning process and is what weaves it all together intellectually and emotionally. Participants who reflect on an experience are better able to extract lessons from the experience, to understand themselves in relation to the experience and to apply the learning to other areas of their lives. Reflection too often takes the form of a simple summary of service activities or one's feelings about the service experience. Most service-learning teachers recognize that reflection can be deeper, but simply do not have the time to create different kinds of reflection activities. In light of this, let me recommend a great publication entitled "Connecting thinking and action: Ideas for service-learning reflection" published by the RMC Research Corporation. It is downloadable at [www.rmcdenver.com](http://www.rmcdenver.com) or at [www.servicelearning.org](http://www.servicelearning.org). It is a compilation of creative, yet practical, reflection activities grouped by grade levels. Here is one example using the K-W-L model.

## K-W-L Know-Want to Know-Learned

(Taken from M. Olson & T. Gee (1991))

| Grade Span | Subject Area          | Thinking Skills                     | Reflective Stage |
|------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| 6-8        | English/Language Arts | Application                         | Ongoing          |
| 9-12       | Mathematics           | Evaluation                          |                  |
|            | Science               | Inference                           |                  |
|            | Social Studies        | Summarization -                     |                  |
|            | Other                 | Understanding multiple perspectives |                  |





CONTINUED FROM COVER

**Preparation:** None (see template) **Materials needed:** Chart paper, markers

**Time Needed:** 10 minute sessions before and after service

**Reflection Idea:** Activate students' prior knowledge regarding service-learning issues or activities by incorporating a K-W-L chart. (What do I know? What do I want to know? What have I learned?) Ask what they already know about the subject during the pre-service reflection time. Have them add what they would like to know more about throughout the service. During the post-service reflection time, allow them to discuss what they learned. This strategy makes the learning both more intentional and more concrete for students.

### Ideas for Extension:

- Instruct students to write short papers at the beginning, middle and end of the service to complement the reflection idea.
- Provide students with their papers at the end of the service, asking them to summarize what they learned in a letter to the community members or agencies with which they worked.

**Cheryl Kary,**  
*Learn and Serve  
Coordinator*

| K-W-L CHART          |                              |                           |
|----------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| K<br>What do I KNOW? | W<br>What do I WANT to know? | L<br>What have I LEARNED? |
|                      |                              |                           |

## ANSER Charter School

ANSER students in grades 1-8 took part in 18 different service projects during the first session of Service & Compassion. They partnered with several new organizations including Headstart, Bannock Arms, and the Boise Language Academy. They also provided a new service for an old partner, the Foothills Learning Center. Highlighted are two of these projects.

### Earth Kids/Foothills Learning Center

During the Earth Kids module, students spent time outside the Foothills Learning Center looking, touching, smelling and even tasting some plants native to the area. Each student chose one plant as their own. The next few weeks were spent drawing and revising drawings of the chosen plant. Final drafts were painted



on one of the picnic tables outside the Foothills Learning Center. Carolyn Volk, Jennie Rylee, and Kristen Lundstrom at the FLC helped students learn what the plants look like, where they grow and how to mix paint to get the colors that we might see in nature. We also worked at collaborating on the layout for the picnic table painting. It looks beautiful! The table serves as a reminder to visitors to protect the plants.

## Boise Language Academy

This group of ANSER students traveled to the Boise Language Academy to work with kids new to the United States. This year the Boise Language Academy moved into a former Boise School District elementary school site. They met Jolene Lincoln and 17 of her students. Her students were from Thailand, Korea, Mexico, Congo, Iraq and many other countries. Together they sanded four benches and planter boxes. After that, they primed and painted them. When all of the painting was finished and dry, they planted bulbs so it would look pretty in the spring. The bulbs represented friendship and hard work.



## Orofino High School

The theme for Orofino High School's service-learning project was social change through increased voter education and registration. It was a natural for them to be involved full force in the presidential election. Students wrote and presented these voter PSAs to the local radio station, KLER.

*Don't wait or hesitate. Go vote November 4, 2008. This is a public service message from Orofino High School U.S. History class and KLER.*

—Harley

*One vote can make all the difference for your future, so you need to cast yours on Tuesday November 4. This is a public service message from Orofino High School U.S. History class and KLER.*

—Steven

*Enough complaining! Get out there and vote! You will feel very good. You have the right, so do it! This is a public service message from Orofino High School U.S. History class and KLER.*

—Mackenzie & Jeremy B

*Don't let people choose the way you live for the next 4 years! Your voice counts; get out and VOTE or someone will choose for you! This is a public service message from Orofino High School U.S. History class and KLER.*

—Breezy, Ken, Levi

*Americans fought for many years for the right to vote. So don't forget to vote Tuesday, November 04. This is a public service message from Orofino High School U.S. History class and KLER.*

—Nathan & Tiffany

The Orofino students participated in Idaho Mock Elections and the Youth Leadership Initiative mock election via the computer, and had most of the school voting. These students worked at the polls after receiving training and doing mock voting using the stylus and card and learning about hanging chads. After learning about the issues, including the electoral college, liberals, conservatives, Democrats, Republicans, and the role the media has played in elections, the students went to Orofino Elementary School and presented election information to six classes (3-5th & 3-6th). They took their knowledge and taught the younger students the importance of voting, the voting process and the electoral college. These students no doubt will go on to be responsible voters and active citizens in their community.

▼ Students participating in mock voting using stylus and cards.





**Learn and Serve Idaho** provides young people with opportunities to serve Idaho by connecting community service with academic learning, personal growth, and civic responsibility. Grantees create new service-learning programs, replicate existing models, and train staff, faculty, adult volunteers, and students in service learning. Participants are K-12, school-age youth.

Eligible applicants for Learn & Serve grants are Idaho K-12 schools of any grade span. Grantee schools must be committed to service learning as a teaching/learning strategy and as an integral component of education. The vision of Learn and Serve Idaho is to assist schools in implementing site-based programs of service learning through policy, practice, and capacity building. Learn and Serve Idaho provides financial and technical assistance to schools as they develop and implement policies and supportive structures at all levels, while reducing barriers to the institutionalization of service learning.

For more information contact Cheryl Kary—[cmkary@sde.idaho.gov](mailto:cmkary@sde.idaho.gov) or 208-332-6913.

## Student's Corner

Reflections from ANSER Charter School

ALL students had meaningful experiences serving in our community. Our students asked thoughtful questions: *I wonder how many food meals are thrown away in one week?*

—Oscar Filson

ANSER students started the school year making a difference in our community in many productive ways. Our students are thinking about a brighter future for everyone: *Hunger will not be solved in an instant. It will take many years of hard work, but one day, yes, hunger will be defeated.*

—Emily Pape

### Earth Kids/Foothills Learning Center Project:

*I served the community by [reminding] people not to pick certain flowers that are indigenous.*

—Travis Winters

### Boise Language Academy Project

*I learned how if people are different they could still be fun. They can do the same things we can.*

—Pia Salathe

*I showed service when I planted bulbs and painted benches. I am contributing to a friendship discussion.*

—Nate Isbell

*It changed me to believe, to love what I have and don't want so much.*

—Marija Stinilovich

*The best thing that happened to me was getting to spend time with the kids at BLA. I cannot wait till next week.*

—Savannah Willison



For more Reflections, please visit our web site at

[www.sde.idaho.gov/site/learn\\_serve/kids\\_in\\_action.htm](http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/learn_serve/kids_in_action.htm)



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### IDAHO LEARN AND SERVE SUBGRANT PROGRAM CURRENT SUBGRANTEES 2008-2009

**The Alameda Center**  
Pocatello, ID

**ANSER Charter School**  
Boise, ID

**Highlands Elementary School**  
Boise, ID

**Idaho Arts Charter School**  
Nampa, ID

**Lakeland High School**  
Rathdrum, ID

**Lapwai Elementary School**  
Lapwai, ID

**Middleton High School**  
Middleton, ID

**Murtaugh High School**  
Murtaugh, ID

**Oakwood Elementary School**  
Preston, ID

**Orofino High School**  
Orofino, ID

**Parma Learning Center**  
Parma, ID

**Parma Middle School**  
Parma, ID

**Sorensen Magnet School of the Arts and Humanities**  
Coeur d'Alene, ID

**Wendell Middle School**  
Wendell, ID